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HDP/SB/21 based on PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	<b>Application Number</b>	10/748,464	
	<b>Filing Date</b>	December 30, 2003	
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Donald G. Wheatley	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3612	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Joseph Pape	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>	9	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	3110-000038/DVC

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <b>postcard</b>
<b>Remarks</b>		<b>The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</b>

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
<b>Firm or Individual name</b>	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	<b>Attorney Name</b> Stanley M. Erjavac Jeffrey L. Snyder	<b>Reg. No.</b> 38,442 43,141
<b>Signature</b>			
<b>Date</b>	January 23, 2004		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.			
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EV 406 075 855 US



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/748,464  
Filing Date: December 30, 2003  
Applicant: Donald G. Wheatley  
Group Art Unit: 3612  
Examiner: Joseph Pape  
Title: TONNEAU COVER FRAME (As Amended)  
Attorney Docket: 3110-000038/DVC

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Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office  
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, please consider the following.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.